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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In re application of:

Gruber *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/076,115

Filed: May 12, 1998

For: **Methods for Production and
Purification of Nucleic Acid
Molecules**

Confirmation No.: 4470

Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Tung, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4350001/RWE/B-C

Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Filed concurrently herewith in the above-captioned application is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Prior to examination of the RCE on the merits, please amend the application as directed herein. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and MPEP 714; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a),

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